

Attorney Docket No. 44

Art Unit: 1723
Examiner: Krishnan S. Menon C 17003

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Charles LOVE

Application No. 09/763,597

Filed: July 2, 2001

For:

POROUS STRUCTURES AND METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR

FORMING POROUS STRUCTURES

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 6, 2002, please enter the following ments and consider the following remarks.

AMENDMENTS

E CLAIMS: amendments and consider the following remarks.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 6 and 7 without prejudice.

Replace the indicated claims with:

(Amended) A method of forming a porous medium comprising: applying pressure to a first portion of a medium precursor including inorganic particles;

separately applying pressure to a second portion of the medium precursor; and sinter bonding the inorganic particles together to form a porous medium having a porosity of about 50% or more.

(Amended) A porous medium comprising:

a porous sintered inorganic body portion having a first end and a porous sintered inorganic end portion closing the end of the body portion, the porous body portion and the porous end portion comprising a unitary structure and each portion having a predetermined porosity.